

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 439  
By Ferguson

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate coach Robert Grout and the Tennessee Volleys tennis team on winning the state and national United States Tennis Association Senior Women's championships.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is proud to specially recognize and commend teams whose members work hard, overcome setbacks, face tough competition and win championships, thus serving as exemplary role models; and

WHEREAS, the superb Tennessee Volleys tennis team, which won the prestigious 1997 United States Tennis Association Senior (50 and over) Women's Championship, is a fine example of excellence in tennis; and

WHEREAS, with members ranging in age from 50-70, the team consisted of members from Roane County, Jefferson County, and from in and around Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, the diligent and dedicated Volleys first won their district title, compiling an unblemished record; and

WHEREAS, the team next won the state tournament, going undefeated with impressive victories against Chattanooga 1 and 2 and Knoxville 1; and

WHEREAS, the Volleys next won the United States Tennis Association Southern Regional Senior Women's Tournament, again going undefeated with sterling triumphs against South Carolina, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Georgia; and

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WHEREAS, their final hurdle was the U.S.T.A. Senior Women's Championship, held in Palm Springs, California; and

WHEREAS, the Volleys won the coveted championship trophy with convincing victories over the Northwestern team (Minnesota), Southern California, the Western team (Indianapolis), the New England team (Rhode Island) and Colorado, in the finals; and

WHEREAS, a particularly noteworthy aspect of the Volleys' admirable exercise of tennis prowess is the team's unprecedented accomplishment of losing only one set at the nationals; and

WHEREAS, their widely respected and admired coach, Robert Grout, has done an outstanding job; and

WHEREAS, team members were: Captain Barbara Gray, Co-captain Vernice Clower, Emily Clouse, Juanita Griffin, Gretchen Kaplan, Carol Materna, Norma Merideth, Dean Mowery, Cinder Parsons, and Georgeanah Self; each of them made a significant contribution to the success of the team; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to recognize the numerous accomplishments of this great team; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Coach Robert Grout and the 1997 Tennessee Volleys tennis team on their numerous accomplishments and wish them well in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copies.